MONTEREY NEWS

APRIL 1996
VOLUME XXVI · Number 4

THE TOWN

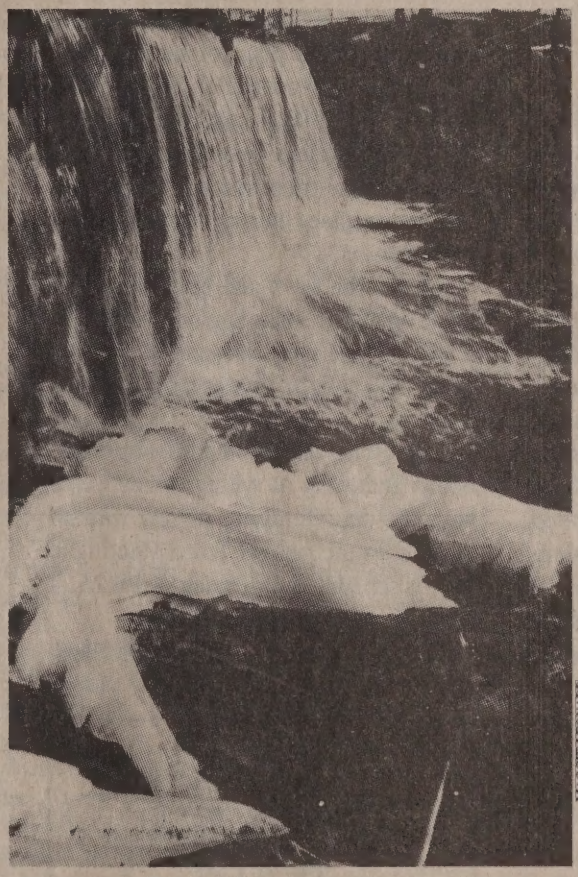
All Articles Pass at Special Town Meeting. Town Moderator Mark Makuc called a Special Town Meeting to order shortly after 9 a.m. on March 23, with thirty-eight persons attending. All articles were passed.

Article 1 established a $40 fine for use of the solid waste disposal facility without a permit, and provided that "each week during which a violation continues shall be deemed to be a separate offense." Peter Brown elaborated that Article 29B passed by the 1995 Annual Town Meeting was not specific enough and the Attorney General had struck it.

In passing Article 2, the town appropriated $1,800 "to investigate the feasibility of accepting the Edith Wilson bequest of property on New Marlborough Road." Bob Heath objected to "putting the cart before the horse" by spending any funds before voting on whether or not to accept the property. Michèle Miller explained that the feasibility study will determine what kind of financial commitment is required to bring the building into compliance with code for certain municipal uses, and expressed her feeling that this information would be helpful to townspeople in deciding whether or not to accept the bequest.

In passing Article 3, voters appropriated $2,000 for assessors' expenses relating to revaluation.

In passing Article 4, voters appropriated $15,493 to pay for unreimbursed cleanup expense from the May, 1995, tornado. Select Board member Peter Brown said that the town expects partial reimbursement of this amount from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.



MAGGIE LEONARD

Behind the General Store.

Considering Salaries and Wages. Last spring the, Annual Town Meeting passed Article 24, authorizing and directing the Select Board to appoint a Salary Committee to assess salaries and wages paid to town employees.

Salary Committee members Jane Kessler and Barbara Tryon met with the Select Board on March 4, and Salary Committee Chair James Bracken met with them on March 18. The committee has joined the Massachusetts Municipal Personnel Association, and is working with their publication, *Benchmark Titles Survey Data*, a detailed listing of salaries, wages, and job descriptions for all responding towns in the Commonwealth. The committee will start with analysis of pay for comparable jobs in towns the size of Monterey. Members are also drawing up and working from a list of frequently asked questions regarding wages, benefits, and salaries for town jobs. The committee's report and recommendations are not due until well after this spring's Annual Town Meeting.

Budget Matters. The Finance Committee met with the Select Board on March 4 and 11 to review warrant articles for the 1996 Annual Town Meeting. They decided that certain one-time appropriations should be presented as Special Articles rather than line items in the article establishing the town's operating budget. For example, anniversary celebration funds were relegated to Special Article status, and an increase of $5,000 in the Fire Department's operating budget, which included the cost of setting up dry hydrants around town, was broken out into a $2,500 increase in expenses (line item) and a $2,500 appropriation (Special Article) for dry hydrants.

On the evening of March 18, Tree Warden Roger Tryon approached the Select Board and Finance Committee with a request for a $9,300 budget to cover the costs of dead and/or dangerous trees, tree maintenance (pruning, thinning, fertilizing, etc.), and replacement of trees lost in the tornado. He also requested a car radio for emergency situa-

tions. The Board asked Tryon to separate his request for replacement trees from his budget, and to present a long-range plan for a tree-planting fund. Also, in response to his request, a line item will be added to the Highway Department's budget for pagers for the highway crew and the Tree Warden.

The combined job of Town Clerk and Streetlisting Registrar, which entails thirty or more hours per week, was budgeted at $13,000, much less than full-time posts in town.

Mass Highway Proposes Wood Bridge. At the March 25 Select Board meeting Edwin Taginski and Rudy Longton of Massachusetts Highway District One presented a proposal for a wood bridge on Gould Road spanning Rawson Brook. This undertaking would be a partnership of Monterey and Mass Highway, which would furnish engineering, material, certain concrete work, and specialized equipment. The Town's responsibility would be labor, permits, supplying and hauling gravel, and any stonework needed to retain the banks of the stream. Existing concrete abutments would be used, with certain modifications possible. The partnership would reduce cost and construction time.

The western approach to the bridge is steep, and it may be best to elevate the roadbed in rebuilding the bridge, which in turn would require raising the concrete abutments. These are still sound, and it was felt that new concrete could be poured on top of and behind what's there now. Although the road is officially closed in winter, cars do occasionally pass, and sometimes slide out of control downhill toward the bridge; new guard rails on this approach would be part of the project.

Taginski and Longton presented pictures of a pre-cut engineered timber bridge in Westfield, an appropriate model for the twenty-eight-foot span on Gould Road. It is thoroughly modern engineering in an old-style bridge. Glue-laminated, pressure-treated beams and deck material are used, and the men assured the Board that strength and durability compare favorably with steel. With proper maintenance, the bridge would remain serviceable for twenty, possibly fifty years.

John Sellew, a member of the North Road Association and a liaison with the town for that group on road reconstruction, praised the plan for its aesthetic, efficiency, and reasonable cost. Ten years ago the Association undertook rebuilding a nearby bridge over Rawson Brook after the state proposed a concrete box culvert to replace the original wood-deck structure.

Once the town and Mass Highway agree on a plan, Mass Highway will draft a letter to the town presenting the proposal, and anticipating acceptance.

Baby Town Meeting. The informational gathering at which townspeople have the opportunity to review warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting in May is scheduled for Friday, April 26, at 7 p.m. in the firehouse.

— Jane Black

The *Monterey News* is published monthly under the auspices of Monterey United Church of Christ, Monterey, MA 01245.

ON FINDING
THE SACRED
IN THE
COMMONPLACE

AN INTRODUCTION

A talk by
Alice O. Howell
author of *Jungian Symbolism in Astrology* and *The Dove in the Stone*

How to see the world and our lives as outward and visible signs of inner spiritual meaning.

Monday, April 15, 7 p.m.

Social Room
Monterey United Church of Christ

— Everyone Welcome —

MPLT NEWS

By the time you read this, your Land Trust, thanks to the effort and generosity of so many of you, will be proud owner of 325 acres on Mount Hunger. Also, I think a conservation restriction will be in the works by the time you read this.

Many people have been extraordinarily and unexpectedly generous. Others, who I had every reason to believe would help, have not. All I can say is—raising money is a weird and uncanny business, full of both delightful and distressing surprises. I could have done with less of the latter, and am most grateful for the former.

But we made it, by hook or crook, skin of our teeth, etc., and that is the main thing. There are a few people without whom we might not have made it.

First and foremost, our lawyer, Peter Vallianos. Peter has been on top of every legal question since the beginning. As this was the first such Chapter 61 transaction in this part of the world, there were many ideas from many sources as to what our rights were, how best to proceed, and what to do when. Peter stuck by his guns and was proved right every time. I must have called him daily, sometimes more. Much of his time was given pro bono, and we are eternally grateful.

Our Select Board. Their commitment to saving this land was what got the ball rolling. Their continued support kept it rolling. Marjorie and Barry Jaffe, and Nancy and Mike Marcus, who sent out special mailings at their own expense. The Marcuses sent out over fifty letters to their friends and neighbors on and near Mount Hunger. The Jaffes, just before leaving on a vacation, spent the night before they left getting out a mailing to everyone in town. These two efforts realized over $5,000. Wayne Dunlop was a

FISHER ASSOCIATES

CHRISTOPHER BLAIR
RESIDENTIAL + COMMERCIAL
DESIGN + PLANNING
PROJECT MANAGEMENT

P.O. BOX 426
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
(413) 528-4960

great help with fund raising, and taught me a lot. His easygoing manner and ability absorb the homework quickly was key to our success in raising the necessary funds. Gerry Shapiro, for the exquisite map she made of every piece of property above Route 23. She used disparate assessor's maps which had to be pushed and prodded to reflect the correct scale. As a result, the town has in perpetuity a wonderful map delineating all these properties as they were in January, 1996. A copy may be seen at Town Hall.

An enthusiastic supporter wrote that he would like to thank all who helped. As others may be of the same mind, a list of contributors follows. I fear that names may have been lost somewhere in our creaky software. If you are a donor and your name does not appear, please accept my apologies, and notify me at 413-528-6785. Formal acknowledgment of financial donations will be in the mail soon.

We plan to have our annual meeting cum picnic and celebration on the Mount Hunger land on July 20 or 21. So mark your calendars *now!*

Thank you, mountain savers, one and all.

— Joyce Scheffey

Adler, Joyce & Fabian
Allan, S.
Allen, Dean & Alice
Andersen/Howell, Walter & Alice
Annelli, Bob & Shirley
Bach, David & Judith
Banner, Maureen & Mike
Bauman*
Beach/Shepley, Nancy & Peter
Bernstein, Owen & Bebe
Bodin, Murray & Jeanne
Bodnar, John and Estella
Bowles, Jane
Brandwein, Sydney & Charles
Brecht, Stefan
Brinberg, Judith & Simeon
Brockman/Jefferson, Bill & Jack
Bronstein, Arthur and Elsa
Bronstein, S. & L.
Brown/Hearon, Jason & Nicky
Buchar, Jan & Lee
Budick, Cynthia & Burton
Caluori, Robert & Joan
Campanale, Ellen
Cesario, Virginia
Chamberlain, Jeri*
Chapman/Crawford, Fred & Chandler
Cherneff, Greta & Marty
Colodny, Sherry & Arthur
Crofut, Bill & Susie
Curtis, Joel & Kathy
Dahlman, Barbara & Jules
D'Amato, Frank
Dean/Shapiro, Allan & Julie
Dean/Volckhausen, C. & J.
Dodyk, Delight & Paul
Dunlap, Richard
Dunlop, Andi & Chris
Dunlop, Ed & Gladys
Dunlop/Sellew, Wayne & Susan
Emmel, Bob & Sally
Emmons, Janice & George
Erda, Lollo
Fenn, Sheldon
Flatow, Miriam & Ira
Flectcher, Rachel
Garber, Janet & Arnold
Garber/Kirk, Connie & J.
Germaine, Jean
Goffman/Larkin, Irwin & Nancy
Gold, Jack & Rhoda
Goldberg, Henry L.
Goodnow, Ned & Dee
Greenwald/Fried, Judy & Robin
Gurtman, Judith & Arthur
Hagen, Paul & Annette
Hallig, Bobbie & Klaus
Halpern, Howard
Harvey, Harriet S.
Hayden, Phil & Marjorie
Hayne, Arnold
Heller, Helen S.
Hephzibah Heights
Holiner/Luxenberg, Sara & Stan
Humphrey, John
Husten, Carol
Jaffe, Barry & Marjorie
Kalodner, Nancy
Kaminstein, Judith
Kaminstein, Judy & Bruce
Ladov, Norman & Susan
Lampman, Janet
Litwack, Tom
Lyons, Anne
MacKensie, Emma
McAllester/Baker, Bonner & Joe
McGaughy, Tim & Ellen
Makuc, Mari
Mandel, Maurice & Carolyn
Marcus, Mike & Nancy
Melnick, Helen
Melvin, Ron & Gwen
Melzer, Jon & Barbara
Menker, Brenda & Joe
Miller/Murkett, Michèle & Peter
Newman, Herbert
O'Connell, Christopher
O'Connell, Gige
O'Connell, Gwen
O'Connell, Pope
Olds, Shirley & Storrs
Orenstein/Bingham, Neil & Sarah
Oliver/Marsh, Glynis & Will
Paul, Mark
Pearl, Shirley & Bud
Quisenberry, Karl & Shirley
Ratner, Allan & Nancy
Rausch, Bob
Reed, Deborah
Reed/Roth, Vicki & Cathy
Regan, Maureen & John
Reich, Deborah
Reis, Cathy
Revely, Maria
Richman, Alvin
Richman, Marge & Sy
Romairone, Carlo
Rosenthal, Tom & Ellen
Ross, Edith
Roth, Richard & Leslie
Rubin/Naughton, Jeff & Leslie
Ryals, Hildegard
Ryan, Patricia
in memory of Jim Secundy
Salamon, Alan R.
Salsitz, Edwin A.
Scheffey, Andrew
Scheffey, Joyce & Lew
Scheffey, Stephen
Schick, Joel & Alice
Seirup, Brian
Seirup, Andrew & Eileen
Seirup, John & Dorothy
Seirup, John & Lynn
Sellew, John
Semaya, Evelyn & Sam
Shanesy, Carol
Shepard*
Shulklapper, Lester & Marilyn
Silk, Lawrence & Elizabeth
Silverstein/Popoff, Dorothy & Ted
Sloan, Faye
Smith, Jackie
Snow, Keith
Somers, Alice & Arthur
Spagnoletti, C., M., & S.
Steiner, Stuart R.
Storch, Lois & Michael
Swanson, Annette
Sudock, Barbara
Tessler, Arthur
Thieriot, Bob
Thorpe, Linda
Transport, Ira
Tryon, Dick & Barbara
Tryon, Roger
Vallianos, Evelyn & Peter
Vining, Eileen & Theodore
Volckhausen, Jane & Walter
Wagner, Angie & Frederick
Ward, Ray & Mary
Wasiuk, Joe & Kathleen
Weisman, Lynn & Lenny
Wing, Joan & Terry
Wing, Phoebe & Arthur
Wislocki, George
Woolam, Gordon
Zaret, Minna

* Please call Joyce at 528-6785

413-528-2715
LICENSED and INSURED
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
Old Work a Specialty
ELECTRICIAN
ED SEPANSKI
Monterey, MA 01245-0662 MASS. LIC. E32003

Zen Shiatsu
therapeutic massage
Lauren Cowdery 413 258 4296
Offices in Stockbridge & Sandisfield MA

TOM GILLIS · Builder
Renovations, Restorations,
Additions, New Construction
25 Years Experience, Licensed, Insured
(413) 528 9544 Harmon Rd. Monterey, MA

FIRE COMPANY OPEN HOUSE

All Monterey residents are invited to the firehouse on April 14 between 1 and 4 p.m., when the new 1996 custom designed and built fire truck will be on display. Please come see the new Engine 1 as well as all the latest advances in firefighting technology. Refreshments will be served.

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Monterey Council on Aging will hold a free spring luncheon on Friday, April 26, at noon in the basement room of the Town Hall. Guest speaker will be MaryKate Jordan, Hospice Administrator for Community Education. Her subject will be the pre-Hospice, Hospice, and National Hospice Network. The public is invited.— Pauline Nault

SWIFT TO BE AT CHURCH

Republican State Senator Jane Swift will be in the social room of the Monterey United Church of Christ on Monday, April 8, 5–7 p.m., to meet Monterey voters and hear their concerns as part of her campaign for U. S. House of Representatives. She is running against incumbent John Olver, a Democrat.

For that kind of service you always wanted but never got. I care about you and your home and the job I do.

Home Improvements & Repairs
Painting, Interior & Exterior
Carpentry, Sheetrocking
Wallpapering & Tiles
Excellent References
Fully Insured
No Job too Small.
Sheep Shearing

(413) 528-6541
Shravan Neill

JUNK MAIL HOPE

The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) is launching a new educational project on reducing unwanted mail. The project will inform residents of easy steps they can take to get their names off mailing lists, and how to avoid being placed on them automatically, yet still receive mail from organizations of choice.

"The Environmental Defense Fund estimates that households receive an average of eighty-four pounds of third class mail each year," said Joy Kirschenbaum of the Solid Waste Staff at CET. "An estimated nine million trees are used annually to make advertising mail that is never read. By requesting that a product not be produced, we are reducing waste at the source. This is even better than recycling—it's really the next wave of waste management."

According to CET, there are a few simple things someone can do to receive less unwanted advertising mail. Tell the organizations from which you want to receive mail to keep your name on an "in-house list" only, and write or state "do not rent, sell, or trade my name" each time you make a purchase or donation. If you send a postcard to the Direct Marketing Association's (DMA) Mail Preference Service, your name will go into the "delete file," where it will remain for five years. Approximately 70% of direct marketers use the Service to avoid sending unwanted mail. Send your postcard to Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, P.O. Box 9008, Farmington, NY 11735.

CET will be traveling throughout western Massachusetts this spring with a display, a free handout on unwanted mail reduction, and postcards addressed to DMA. This display is available to libraries, town halls, and local organizations. For more information, or to request a display, call CET at 1-800-238-1221.

The Center for Ecological Technology is a non-profit energy and resource conservation organization with offices in Pittsfield and Northampton. CET's Unwanted Mail Waste Reduction Campaign is funded through a grant from the Rural Economic and Community Development Service of the USDA.

BARRINGTON STAGE CO. TO PRESENT PIXLEY STORY

The Barrington Stage Company will present a one-woman show titled *Hannah Pixley: The Life and Times of a Berkshire County Woman* this summer at the Company's home base, Mount Everett School. The performance will feature Diane Kagan as Hannah Pixley telling the story of her life, with text taken directly from the autobiography which has been published serially in the *Monterey News* since last December.

The staged reading will run for three nights, August 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m., and August 18 at 5:30 p.m. on the Company's Second Stage as part of its In the Works series. A full production is anticipated for the 1997 season.

NOTICE FOR DEMOCRATS

On Friday, April 12, Monterey Democrats will hold a double meeting.

First, at 7:30 p.m. in the firehouse, the Democratic Town Committee will meet alone to elect a Chairman, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Outreach Advisor. Then, at 8 p.m., the general membership will join the meeting to continue the work already begun together with the new Executive Committee.

CHARLES J. FERRIS
Attorney at Law

342 Main St. Gt. Barrington, MA 01230
617 Main Rd. PO Box 63
Monterey, MA 01245

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE
IN MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK

Free Consultation
on any Legal Matter

Evening and Weekend
Appointments Available

PHONE (413) 528-8900
FAX (413) 528-9888

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Resurrection:
Doctrine or Person

Rodger Kamenetz, in his book *The Jew in the Lotus*, relates an incident about a woman who came from a fundamentalist Christian family. Her family hated that she was doing Buddhist practice. She wrote a letter to Ram Dass outlining the difficulties. She ended it, "My parents hate me when I'm a Buddhist and love me when I'm a Buddha." (p. 257) There are times when we are caught up in the belief and betray the teacher and the believer. Witness what happens when the Christian, or any religious believer for that matter, is caught up in slavish obedience to a particular teaching or doctrine and, in so doing, betrays the person and spirit of Jesus.

It's a familiar cultural message as well. Life, it seems, has more to do with style than substance. On a much deeper level, as Kamenetz's example so clearly notes, it is so easy to identify with a label: Republican, Democrat, capitalist, communist, socialist, gay, straight, Christian, Jew, Muslim, Buddhist. And all too often we are caught up in the idolatrous practice of worshipping belief systems. Lost in the fervent call to correct belief is the person. It is imperative that we make the effort to relate to one another out of a sense of compassion rather than ritual.

Certainly, the Christian celebration of the resurrection of Jesus ("Easter" in more secular terms), is a crucial meeting of ritual and compassion!

The ritual, or prescribed order, for too many Christians has been and continues to be an emphasis on Jesus being sacrificed as a guilt offering to appease an angry God. This is the message that is carried over from crucifixion to the resurrection of Jesus. How does one reconcile that with our understanding of a loving and compassionate God? Maybe too many of us are more comfortable with a jealous and judgmental God. And maybe that particular belief is projected on this particular event rather than the word and deed of Jesus.

It seems to me that Christians are celebrating (hopefully) at this time of the year the abolition of guilt and judgmentalism. What occurred at the crucifixion and the resurrection was the wonderful declaration of the unity of God and humanity. That not even physical death could separate us. Jesus lived the unity of God and humanity.

That is the "good news!" In so doing, Jesus blessed us with that gift of unity as well. That is not special privilege. Believing that has caused and is causing enormous heartache because it sets up belief over believer. The "unity" that is celebrated is the compassion of God that is also ours to be.

— Keith Snow, Pastor

CONDOS TO CASTLES

HEBERT REALTY INC.

Linda Rabiner Hebert
Broker, GRI, CRS, CRB

Jenifer House Commons, Great Barrington, MA 01230
40 Housatonic Street, Lee, MA 01238
Route #23, Monterey, MA 01245
Bus: (413) 528-4880/243-3405
Res: (413) 528-3440
Fax: (413) 528-5654

MLS

SERVING MONTEREY SINCE 1955

SURF'S UP AT THE MONTEREY LIBRARY

Despite all the snowstorms this winter, surfing is now possible at the Monterey Library. The resources of the Internet are now available to users of the library in Monterey. This Internet access is available as a result of the library's participation in the Massachusetts Library and Information Network (MLIN).

Along with fifty-three other small public libraries in the state (forty-two in western, ten in central, and two in eastern Massachusetts), we have received a microcomputer, a printer, and a telecommunications connection providing text-based access to the Internet. Throughout December and January, Board and Regional staff conducted a series of training sessions for library directors and staff on how to access and search MLIN and the Internet. The ultimate goal of the project is to connect all Massachusetts public libraries, thereby providing all residents with equal access to the wealth of library resources available throughout the Commonwealth.

The concept of MLIN—the electronic linking of all Massachusetts public libraries—was developed through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners' strategic planning process. A state capital bond bill authorized establishment of the MLIN, and funded grants to individual small libraries. The MLIN project is administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners located in Boston and the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System headquartered in Hatfield.

Now Monterey Library users may search for and retrieve information from Massachusetts libraries, community resource files, local, state, and federal government resources, national and international sources, and licensed commercial databases.

MLIN and the Internet are available at the library during regular hours (see ad on this page), except for the last fifteen minutes or so of any open time, when staff may need the computer. Contact Library Director Anne Marie Makuc with any questions about this new and exciting resource.

MOUNT EVERETT OPEN HOUSE

Mount Everett Regional School has been getting national attention for its commitment to a student-centered approach to high school education. Through its membership in the Coalition of Essential Schools, it has achieved recognition for its accomplishments in school reform. Unfortunately, here at home many people are unaware of what has been developing at the school over the last four years. In an effort to remedy this, the Mount Everett School Council is holding an Open House on Tuesday, April 9, 6–8:30 p.m. to showcase the high school programs.

Student musicians will perform in the atrium. Teachers and students will demonstrate their programs in the technology labs and art studios. There will be a presentation in the auditorium including slides, comments from the principal, faculty members, parents, and students. Visitors will be able to meet teachers and high school students in their classrooms, and learn about the various approaches in each discipline. Leaders of the co-curricular programs will answer questions. The evening will conclude with refreshments and informal conversation with staff and students in the cafeteria.

This night is especially appropriate for seventh and eighth grade students and their parents, but everyone interested in learning more about the school is welcome. Child care may be available by reservation. Please call 229-8734 for details.

— Jane Burke

Annecharico Farm

Polled Herefords
First Qaulity Feed Hay
Mulch Hay, Field Work
Land Clearing, Brush Hogging

Sandisfield, MA · 258-4634

THE BIDWELL HOUSE

Fruitfulness is not usually connected with winter; however, this winter has been very fruitful for The Bidwell House. The museum has been awarded one full grant and eight partial grants.

Thanks to a grant from the Cricket Foundation of Boston, the museum has hired an intern to help with the gardens. This year the heirloom vegetable garden will be laid out in quadrants. One will represent gardening techniques and varieties of 1750–1800, the second a garden of 1800–1850, the third varieties likely to be found in the period 1850–1900, and the fourth will be a modern garden.

The museum also received partial grants from cultural councils in Monterey, Great Barrington, Lenox, Lee, New Marlborough, Sandisfield, and Stockbridge to help fund the annual folk concert.

The Bidwell House was chosen by the Center for Ecological Technology and Pittsfield Community Television to participate in a four-part TV series which will be aired on all Berkshire cable stations. The goal of the series is to deepen our understanding of local environmental resources, and to improve awareness of how land use has developed in this area.

The history of the Bidwell property provides a good example of change in farmland management in the Berkshires over the past two centuries. The CET film touches on the farming days of the Bidwell family, the use of the property for farming, the museum's current involvement with the Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Program, and saving heirloom seeds in the museum's current gardening program. An interior scene focuses on how people sustained themselves throughout the winter by storing older varieties. The scene also briefly discusses some Native American foods grown at the museum.

The series will be aired sometime this spring, so check your TV listing and tune in. It should be an interesting and informative show.

On Sunday, June 2, The Bidwell House is hosting Quilt Day in Monterey. The event will be an exhibition, discussion, and demonstration with a focus on antique patchwork quilts. Included in the exhibition will be eighteenth- and nineteenth-century linsey-woolseys, blocked print coverlets, and glazed quilts from The Bidwell House collection. In addition, there will be a display of antique sewing tools.

For novice quilters, a quilt frame will be set up for you to try your hand, and several books will be available for your perusal. The discussion and demonstration will be led by Carole Zarlin of New York, who has taught quilting for many years and also is a collector of fine antique quilts.

We are looking for other quilters who would like to volunteer and add to the event. We are also looking for more antique quilts to display. Come share your experiences and let's relive the camaraderie of the old time quilting bee! It should prove to be a fun afternoon. Call 528-6888 for more information.

Openings are available for interesting work at The Bidwell House this coming season. If you enjoy history, architecture, useful and decorative arts, and if you like meeting people, then volunteering at The Bidwell House will be fun for you. Volunteers are needed for interpretation, organizing and working at special events, host and hostessing, typing or computer work, and gardening. The Bidwell House is an exciting place to work; we attract visitors from all over the world, last year including several direct descendants of Rev. Bidwell, John Demos (historian and author of *The Unredeemed Captive*), and David Blum (author, Varguard recording artist, and conductor of the Seattle Chamber Orchestra). Another great benefit is free admission to other Berkshire County museums. And, of course, you and your family will have free admission to The Bidwell House this season.

Call 528-6888 this month to secure a place in the program. The Bidwell House will have a training period in May for new volunteers.

— Anita Carroll-Weldon

NEW MARLBOROUGH AND MONTEREY SCHOOL NEWS

March is Youth Art Month, so art teacher Donna Drew set up a display of art work by children from Pre-K through fourth grade at the Mill River Library. We have some very talented and creative artists. (See drawings, pp. 12, 13.) Keep up the good work!

The Butternut Basin student skiing program concluded this month. This ten-lesson series is a district-wide program, with students from New Marlborough Central participating. I have first-hand knowledge of its good effects after watching my own children go from tentative skiers to confident ones. Another lesson: patience while waiting for Mom to catch up!

In the health curriculum department, a dental program was presented to the Monterey K/1. The Red Cross presented an AIDS awareness program appropriate for the children's age to grades 1–4 at NMC.

The St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's Math-A-Thon has been completed. The following children participated from NMC: Amber Beckwith, Christina Gregor, Austen Groener, Lindy Ann Marcel, Katie Prew, Joelle Bertoli, Christopher O'Brien, Jon Scapin, Renee Wilkinson, Heather Funk, and Penny Duryea, who brought in the most money, winning herself a boom box. Altogether these eleven kids raised $690.12. You should all be proud of the work you did.

— Deborah Mielke

MAGGIE LEONARD

Swordplay in the early spring sun by members of the Bigger Light Theater Company.

WILLIAM BROCKMAN
REAL ESTATE
FIDDLETOP • MONTEREY • MASSACHUSETTS 01245
413 528 - 4859

Country homes and estates, vacation homes, weekend retreats, building sites and acreage.

NEW YORK MASSACHUSETTS CONNECTICUT

MLS

MONTEREY MAPLE
528-9385

made by Joe Baker & Bonner McAllister, Hupi Road, Monterey, Mass.

Munson Satellite Tv

•18" Dishes
•Standard Satellite
•Tv Antenna
and
•Cable Tv Systems;
Installed and Repaired
• Commercial/
Residential Wiring

38 West Hubbard Rd., Sandisfield, MA 01255
Call or Fax: George Munson (413) 258-4887

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Welcome Spring! We have many activities and programs planned, as follows. (Except as noted, phone 528-9311 for information and registration.)

Tuesday, April 2 Teen Communication and Discipline Workshops by Clair Cabiles, L.C.S.W., 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Southern Berkshire Youth Center, 955 South Main St., Gt. Barrington. On-site childcare and workshop are free, please register in advance.

Tuesdays, April 2 and 9 Workshops on Chapter 766, Special Education Laws, Lee Public Library, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Call 458-9568 to register for materials. Sponsored by Family Support.

Tuesday, April 9 Workshop on child development for children eighteen months to three years, led by Delinda Anderson, Joy Milani-Lane, and Cathy Coyle, teachers with First Steps, an early intervention program, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Bear Care Center, 940 S. Main St., Gt. Barrington. Childcare available, please register in advance.

Monday, April 15 New parents are invited to attend a social and informative meeting at CHP, 54 Castle Street, Gt. Barrington. Discussion of sleep issues during the first year of life will be led by Jodi Tuller, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Childcare, please register in advance.

Saturdays, April 13 and 27 Playgroups at Calvary Christian Church on Route 41, 10 a.m.–12 noon.

Sunday, April 21 Family Fun Day at Eden Hill Recreation Center, 12 noon–4 p.m., rain or shine. A $10 fee will allow families to enjoy the pool, gym, arts and crafts, nature programs, music, juggler, obstacle course, games, and hayrides. Pony rides and food will be available for an extra charge. Call to donate time or baked goods. Proceeds benefit the Family Support Network of CHP.

Tuesday, April 23 Foster parent recruitment classes in Gt. Barrington begin. A ten-week course on Tuesdays, 6–9 p.m. at Bear Care Center, 940 S. Main St., Gt. Barrington. On-site childcare and workshop free. To register call 413-499-7370, and ask for Family Resource Dept. Sponsored by D.S.S.

Friday, April 26 Annual visit to Gould Farm to see the farm animals. Meet at 10 a.m. at the red barn. Wear mud boots and bring a picnic or snack. We are combining with the preschool facility at Gould Farm to offer four parent-child playgroups on May 3, 10, 17, and 24, 9:30–11:30 a.m. On April 26 we will visit the playgroup site during the farm visit. Raindate is May 3.

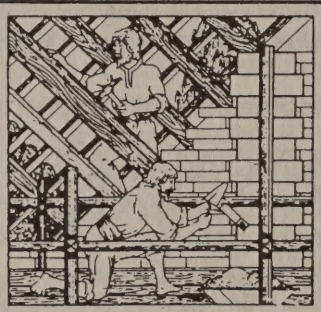
Monday, April 29 Workshop, fun activities for children three years and younger, led by Delinda Anderson, 6:30–8:30 p.m. at Bear Care Center, 940 S. Main St., Gt. Barrington. Childcare, please register in advance.

We need volunteers in Otis and Sandisfield to assist area families in which there is a pregnancy or a child under three years. Parent-to-parent volunteers offer help in a variety of ways—transportation, information, emotional support. A program will begin in Sandisfield on April 24. Please call.

The Center for Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care, Fairview Hospital, Fourth Floor, is accepting clients aged twenty-one years or younger. Please call 528-8580 for more information.

Plan to participate in Turn Off Television Week, April 24–30. Get library books to read with your child. Plan some simple board games, card games, or go for a walk. Help your child learn about activities not related to television.

New to our lending library: *Making It As A Stepparent,* by Claire Berman. Harper and Row, 1986; *Stepfamilies Stepping Ahead,* Stepfamily Ass'n of America, 1989; *Stepmotherhood,* by Cherie Burns. Harper and Row, 1985.



MONTEREY MASONRY

NEW PHONE:
413-229-0475
NEW FAX:
413-229-0478
NEW ADDRESS:
BOX 58,
SHEFFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01257

- CUSTOM BRICK, STONE, AND STUCCO WORK
- SPECIALIZING IN 18th AND 19th CENTURY RESTORATION
- RUMFORD FIREPLACES
- CHIMNEYS REPAIRED AND REBUILT
- BRICK AND STONE PAVING, WALLS, TERRACES, GARDENS
- LIME PLASTERING

EXPERIENCED AND INSURED
— SINCE 1982 —

Rick Mielke

Seasonal Caretaking

Professional Year-Round Maintenance of Your House and Grounds

528-0864

We Return Your Calls

20 Years' Service - Fully Equipped - Fully Insured
P. O. Box 211, Monterey, MA 01245

THE POLITICIANS

Verbatim from our man in the statehouse.

Legislative Action

Every month when I sit down to write this column, my goal is to inform the residents of Monterey of initiatives being addressed in the Legislature which could possibly affect them. This month I have opted to update the readers of the *Monterey News* regarding the progress we have made on several of the issues I have written about in the past.

In February of 1995 I wrote about the necessity to spend adequate money on the upkeep of Berkshire County's roads. Besides the obvious safety implications, continued road construction also gives a strong boost to the local economy seeing as every $1 million spent on road construction produces an average of sixty jobs.

I am very pleased to say that the House of Representatives early last month approved the Transportation Bond Bill which allocates $3.8 billion dollars for local road improvement, bridge repair, bicycle routes and for infrastructure projects not tied to the federal highway system. The bill is slated to be taken up by the Senate in the coming weeks. Hopefully the bond money will be available to cities and towns in time for the 1996 construction season.

Last June I wrote that the House passed its version of the Open Space Bond Bill, which is a $370 million bond for the purpose of statewide environmental enhancement and protection. After making its way through the Senate last fall, and through the conference committee process early this year, the environmental spending package was signed into law by Governor William Weld in February.

In October, I informed Monterey residents about legislation that would establish a network of one-stop home health care shopping centers, known as Aging Service Access Points (ASAPs). This network would ensure that elders have a stable, centralized place to seek support for their long term health care needs by giving them a single point of entry into the Commonwealth's system of long term care programs. This coordination of services includes pre-screening for nursing home facilities, adult day care services, adult foster care, and state home care services.

During the week of March 11, 1996, the House of Representatives passed this bill and it is presently awaiting action in the Senate. I am confident this legislation will be passed in that branch soon. Senator Stanley Rosenberg (D-Amherst), a strong supporter of the ASAP concept, was recently named chairman of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and has said he will do everything possible to move this very important bill along to passage.

Finally, in February's issue I described my efforts in the fight to keep the Mass Highway District One office in Lenox open and functioning at full capacity. As you may recall, the Weld Administration had targeted this office for closure as part of his plan for reorganizing state government. I was adamantly opposed to this ploy to short change Berkshire County of this much needed service.

I am pleased to say that after being grilled by me and my colleagues during a string of public hearings on this matter, Governor Weld has changed his tune and is now planning to keep the office open. However, as a safety measure to make the Governor stick to his new promise, I attached an amendment to the Transportation Bond Bill that mandates that the Lenox office not be closed.

That rounds up my legislative update for this month. I look forward to keeping you informed on the issues that come before the Legislature in the future. In the meantime, should you have any questions or concerns that need to be answered, feel free to contact me at my district office (243-0289) at any time.

— Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins

STEFAN GROTZ
ATTORNEY AT LAW

312 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230

PHONE: (413) 528-4748
HOME: (413) 528-4519
FAX: (413) 528-5165

Master Lic. No. 15186 A
Fully Insured
Phone & Fax 413-528-5444

DAN ANDRUS
ELECTRICIAN

MAIN ROAD
MONTEREY, MA 01245

Generators & Alternative Energy
Phone & Cable TV
Residential & Commercial Wiring

the BOOKLOFT

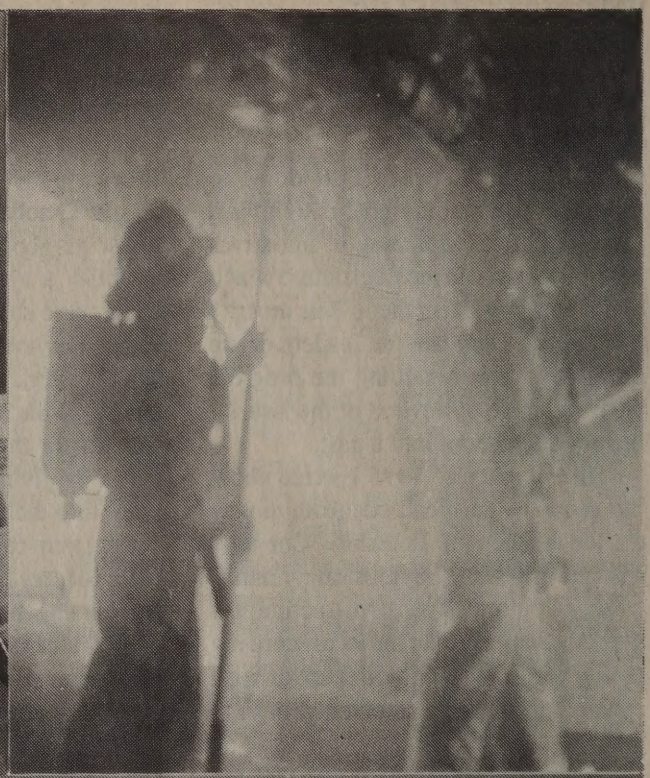
New & Used Books
Fine Cards · Magazines

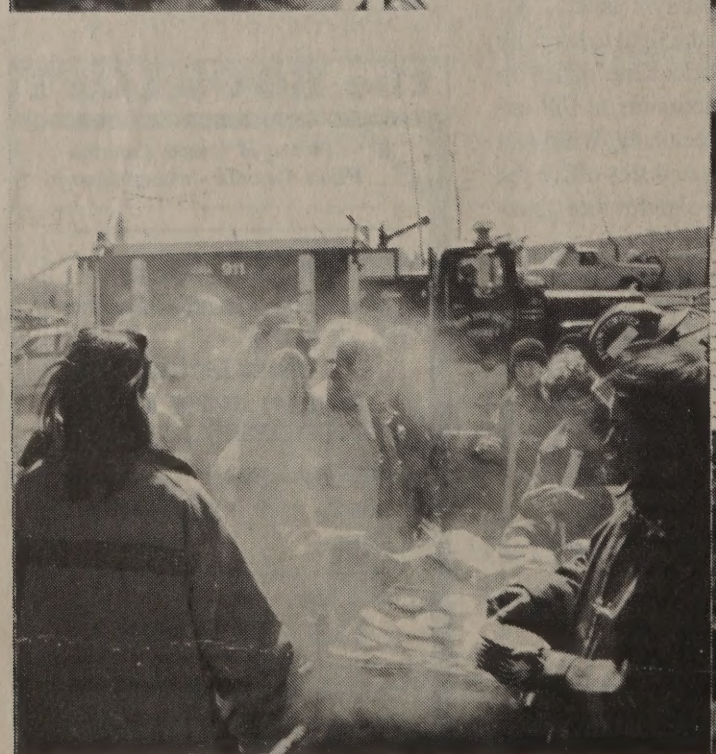
We Welcome Your Special Orders
·
Most Books Arrive in 1-3 Days

Mon. - Fri. 9:30-9
Sat. 9:30-5:30
Sun. noon-5

413 · 528-1521

Barrington Plaza Rt. 7
Gt. Barrington, MA 01230





Volunteers from Monterey, Otis, Tyringham, Sandisfield, New Marlborough, Great Barrington, and Housatonic gathered on a windy Sunday morning, March 24, under a cool blue sky for firefighting practice as close to real as it can be. The Heller house at the intersection of Routes 23 and 57, which was left mostly standing after the tornado, yet roofless, uninhabitable, and prohibitively costly to repair, was burned down. Fires were set in upstairs rooms, teams entered, vented through boarded windows, and practiced putting out the fire. There was a movie-set atmosphere, complete with long waits and burgers on the grill. In the end, a hundred-year-old house rich with Victorian detail, including a round-cornered porch with turned posts, a place once sheltered by huge white pines with a view of Lake Buel in the distance, then exposed on a barren knob in the wake of the tornado, collapsed in flames.

Photos, opposite: top left, Wayne Dunlop; top right, and bottom left and right, Peter Murkett. Above, Wayne Dunlop.

MONTEREY GETS AN A

A letter dated February 28, 1996, and addressed to Monterey Select Board Chair Stefan Grotz, quoted here complete:

Dear Mr. Grotz:

Congratulations! Monterey has received a grade of A on the 1996 Municipal Recycling Report Card for recycling 36% of its solid waste. In addition, the municipality received a rating of "Satisfactory" for the amount of effort that the community has displayed in developing its recycling program. The "effort" rating is based on the number of key recycling program elements implemented by the community.

With a statewide recycling rate of 31%, Massachusetts is seventh in the nation and second in the northeast in recycling. In order to reach our aggressive goal of recycling 46% of our solid waste by the year 2000, every community must continue to improve. Recycling creates over 10,000 jobs in the Commonwealth and sustains over $600 million of economic activity.

To help your community increase its recycling rate, the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and the Department of Environmental Protection are awarding Monterey with a roll-off container valued at $4,090. This grant is derived from the Clean Environment Fund, which is financed by unclaimed bottle deposits. DEP staff will send grant information under separate cover to your municipality's recycling representative.

I also want to congratulate Joyce Scheffey, who was designated as Monterey's Outstanding Recycler for 1995. Local recycling advocates are a key to the state's recycling success. Joyce Scheffey has shown us how much one person can do to advance recycling in the community.

Keep up the good work! Let's make Massachusetts the number one recycler in the nation.

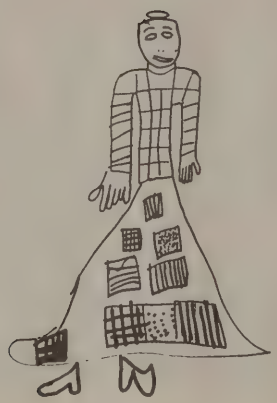
Cordially,
Trudy Coxe, Secretary
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Lie in the bright, young grass
Spill on the ground
Feel the soft, green press
Curling, fevered mound

The sun's prickling brush
On pale winter skin
Wind and water's rush
Slide around and in

I will cast my shadow over you
Twine in liquid tumble
Pull you in and through
Spring's moist and muddled mumble

— Nick Hardcastle



RESOLUTIONS

Wanting him
among the birches
on sacred territory
As the white skyseekers shed their skins from winter storms

Welcoming him
to a desert place
with miracle flowers
celebration in windsong

Wishing him
beside her
anticipated jubilation
and kisses in dark and secret corners

Watching him
drunk on his sleep
And the way his lashes flutter over some dream

— Shannon Amidon

FIRST PARTING

you will leave here, daughter
these well worn snowy hills
this old warm wooden home
for some higher ranges
with earthen dwellings
on older continents
you will eat the roots
of foreign gardens
the brown breads and wine
of ancient vineyards
you will converse and solve
the riddles of the day
in old world tempered tongue
endearing friendships will
find you—even love
but never fret nor fear
for this one, your father
who reaches far for you
through these long blue shadows
knowing only one word:
the word I have lived with
almost all of my life
whose nights are full of moons
whose days of creation
whose seasons of birth and death
bring forth the great abundance
I never set out to be
the earth's greatest lover
she seduced me with her bountiful bosom
let her embrace you, too
show you the roads to Rome
and then the road back home

— Richard Zukowski

WANTON SPRING

Wanton Spring whispered something
To Betula Pumila, to Berberis Canadensis;
He murmured an innuendo
To Amelanchier, to Salix Lucida;
He made a suggestion
To Forsythia Viridissima, Viburnum Nudum,
As they stood there,
They woke from their long sleep
And a delighted blush
Swept up their slender thighs,
Spread to their very fingertips.

— David P. McAllester

LONGER DAYLIGHT

each one of us
an experiment the divine makes
like a garden
here corn there peas
trellises of beans and cucumbers
morning glories sprawling on fences
but better
yielding varieties of song
and worse
pulling taproots for weeds
refusing compost altogether
trembling below a cloudy sky
mouthing Rain! Rain!
and when it does
miming Why? Why?
until one afternoon our mirror scraps
hang by threads on arms of scarecrows
reflect a longer daylight
suggest perhaps that we are happy
each one of us a garden

— MaryKate Jordan

HOUSEWIFE

Already she has put away her heart
she tells herself
and yet with some relief
put on the grey and blue polyester flowers of middle age
you know, bow at the breast, women's size
from the bargain basement of one's years

she has turned to the strange familiar anguish
of her children growing:
their storms, their joys, loves, hopes, tears
have filled her days, her nights
her husband talks and talks and talks and waves his hands
grey hairs must mean wisdom, she reasons
wrinkles, the paths to wisdom's smiles

oh, she filled her winter with such sensible pursuits
sorting and resorting, efficiently resigned
and now comes April!
sweet grass and air, tumbling sensual clouds
she pulls out an old and bright-sprigged dress
the children are fighting in the kitchen
she does not hear them
a piercing call from the heart shakes her
she remembers a voice
and is dismayed.

— A. O. Howell

Someday my father will die
and sorrow will rise in my heart
and I will hope it is a dream
but I cannot control my sadness.

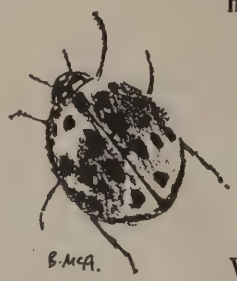
— Massimo Monjardo [age 8]

THE PLANET TILTS: LADYBUGS AGAIN

Last fall the ladybugs came in droves. People working outside found on certain days the air was full of them, and in the house the windows and ceilings were peppered with the little shiny buttons. For us New Englanders this was a phenomenon, not only because the beetles were around in such numbers, but because close scrutiny proved these were not our old familiar stock.

We have seen ladybugs before, welcomed them to our gardens and orchards, said our nursery rhymes about them. Many of us have even had them in our house, one or two at a time, where we have greeted them with a smile. We know they don't bite and we know that some people pay money to get ladybugs into their lives. So if we get one for free, working its Integrated Pest Management on our house plants, so much the better. But these new ladybugs are different from the ones we are used to. They are not necessarily the old tomato-soup red-orange with black spots. Some might fit this description, but others might be a tan mustard color, working to yellow, and maybe with no spots at all. The new ladybugs exhibit every shade of yellow to orange to red, and in my observation show every number of spots, from zero to twenty-eight. They come quite teeny, as well as normal-sized.

Some people have seen the new ladybugs before. We were roofing year before last, and on some days we had clouds of them in the air around us. But 1995 was the year they showed up in such numbers in the house. I got so many calls about ladybugs last year I decided to call the U. Mass. entomology department to get its perspective on the situation.



A friendly receptionist in the department answered the phone and explained that if this call was about ladybugs I was out of luck. She knew a little bit herself, but the main ladybug scientist and his principal graduate student had fled the ivory tower completely and were in hiding, they'd been so deluged with phone calls. What the receptionist told me was that I shouldn't worry because the creatures were harmless. I did a little reading and learned these ladybugs are a new species in this area, probably from down south, maybe here as a result of people's having bought so many mail order for their orchards. On the other hand, this could just be a natural population expansion. We've seen the new ladybug pioneers for a few years, now this is the main wave.

Last fall some people vacuumed up the hapless immigrants, others carefully captured them in paper cups and put them outside. Eventually cold weather came and the bug population settled down for its long winter's nap. The ladybugs crawled back into the woodwork. We had been asking ourselves, "Why do thousands of ladybugs all of a sudden feel they have to be in my house?" but now we could let the question hang because they were gone, it was over. It was over for awhile.

We live on a planet that spins and tilts, both, and this is good because it gives us another crack at things year after year. We especially get this feeling in the spring. I am grateful for the chance to start all over in the garden and orchard every year. Last year I didn't keep after the plum curculio beetles in the orchard well enough, and all our little green fruit dropped. Now here comes my chance to try again, to do better this time. Like the ladybugs, I'll be crawling out of the woodwork, where I have been pretty dormant all winter, ready for action in the spring. For me this will mean planting and tending the garden and orchard. The ladybugs will be more interested in making more ladybugs.

If your windows are once again lined with little rounded buttons, if you get buzzed as you are reading in bed at night, and if the kitchen table is alive with ladybugs taking little sips of spilled water or soup, you know you have been giving safe harbor to last fall's adult ladybugs. Put them outside on a warm day and they will find some bark or leaf litter to get under by the time it gets cold at night. Don't worry about birds eating them because they taste awful. They will mate and lay clusters of eggs on the foliage in your orchard and their larvae will gobble up aphids. In my case, this should leave me free to concentrate on the curculios. I'll do my best, but I like knowing that whether I do well this growing season or not, my tilting spinning planet will give me another chance in '97, just like the ladybugs.

— Bonner J. McAllester

Serving Monterey for over 20 years Call Jay 528-5099

JAY AMIDON PAINTING

Clean, Orderly, and Accommodating
Staining · Painting · Interior · Exterior · Old & New

CALL NOW for interior work and plan exterior work for the summer

WILDLIFE SURVEY

Spring Color. Though this is written in March, there are already all kinds of signs of spring. It may come on with heavy snow tomorrow, but we know that white blanket is doomed to be tattered, and there isn't much future in building a snowhouse these days. The unpaved roads are getting muddy; soon the frost will go out of them and we'll see signs: "Road Closed, Mud Season."

Now is when the willow twigs, the red osiers, the birch twigs, and the tips of the grey-twigged dogwood all show their colors, so that from the highway the world takes on a new look. Whole mountainsides as well as roadsides are telling it: there is a stirring at the roots.

Green and purple plastic tubing has suddenly appeared, connecting the sugar maples along the road and through the woods, and emptying in a variety of holding tanks. Clouds of fragrant steam rise from the sap houses and bottles of first-run syrup are on their way to the stores. Freezing nights and thawing days keep the sap running; how long, how much, and what quality are all elements of the Great Imponderable, as with all agricultural pursuits.

Ladybugs. They've been with us all winter, but any warm spell brings them out of their hibernating places. Alice Howell writes: "Monterey must be in for some overwhelming good luck! We have had an infestation of ladybugs! I counted sixteen on one windowpane alone—I haven't the heart to do anything but be grateful. Anyone else?"

A special display has been taking place in the Baker/McAllester household. A big white Japanese lantern in the kitchen attracts the ladybugs after dark and they busily circumnavigate the horizontal ribs of the lantern, like an arcane system of planets orbiting a huge sun.

Other insect manifestations are moths, visible both day and night, "snow fleas" congregating in puddles of melted snow and in eddies in the brooks as they open up. Where brooks empty into ponds the snow fleas pile up against the remaining ice, downstream, in congregations of thousands. As of March 20, they seem to have completed their courtship and invisibly returned to the rest of their like cycle in the forest tilth.

Skunks are out of hibernation. Dale Duryea reports that a majority of his calls these days are for skunk removal; as of March 20, seven or eight calls. They are a little early, but the problem is the same: "Get them out of my house!" The Agway warehouse clocks in every year as reliably as spring peepers. This time birds' seed was the attraction.

The Route 23 Beavers. There is unusually good opportunity to watch a developing beaver industry right on the south side of Route 23 about a mile east of Great Barrington. Dale has observed that it is two large beavers. They have a complex of dams, large and small, and the freshly stripped branches recently added to the dam show that construction work and eating are agreeably combined. Since the dams are upstream from where the brook goes under the road, there's no present danger of interference with traffic, and the beavering has gone on for a couple of months now undisturbed.

Other Mammals. Deer: six near Blue Hill Road spotted by Sudi Baker. They were grazing in a field and two turkeys were feeding along with them. Others in Dale's meadow, grazing and ignoring the nearby hay bales! Coyotes "all over," and "a few calls" regarding raccoons (Dale). A large cat with a long tail, leaping over a guard rail in Monterey, seen by Kimo Lee, and, on another occasion by his friend in early March. It was not a fox or coyote, which suggests that this is another of the mountain lion sightings we keep having in spite of the conservative position of the Fish and Wildlife Department that these big cats are still only found farther north.

Birds. Returning: small detachments of geese are flying over every day; redwing blackbirds can be heard by the ponds; grackles are here; at least one robin and a flock of eighteen redpolls (Joe Baker, March 19). Things are happening!

— David P. McAllester

SUPER BLUE GREEN ALGAE

One of Earth's most nutrient-rich wild foods. For information about this organic food...

(800) 646-3239 ext. 5683

(413) 528-9263

The Roadside Store & Cafe

Owned and Operated by the Gould Farm Community

On Route 23 in Monterey, Massachusetts

"The pancakes should be denoted by hubcap size ....
Small is a Honda, medium is a Ford Taurus,
and large is a Mac truck."

-- Matthew Breuer, a Roadside regular

Open every day from 7:30am-3:00pm,
grilled food available until 2:00pm.

Breakfast and lunch served all day,
made with fresh, Farm-grown ingredients.
Other local products & crafts also for sale.
Call 528-2633 about daily specials.

LETTER FROM SANTO DOMINGO

Sthea Mason is a Monterey resident spending her junior year with the American Field Service program, living and studying in the Dominican Republic with a Spanish speaking family. AFS was founded by U. S. ambulance drivers in World War II, and is celebrating fifty years of world-wide cultural exchange for students fifteen to eighteen years old. The following is taken from her letters home.

Here it is very hot but not suffocating; I can bear it. The house does have air conditioning but not when there is no electricity. The ocean is so warm it barely even begins to cool me off. When we go out to the discos at night we all end up sweating so much because it is so hot. My sisters have tried to teach me the merengue.

This evening I went with my family to Ferria Mecanica, an amusement park that travels around to lots of countries. It was great to watch the bungee jumping. In a little cage they go up into the air 150 feet on a crane. And then just have to jump out head first because the rope is tied to their ankles. They only fall about halfway before the rope bounces them back. Some people bounced around for quite a while. This thing costs 300 pesos. That is about $25. But if you die or get badly hurt, they pay thirty million pesos.

There are tons of fruit growing here; avocados, mangos—which can be bought in the market for a few cents each—pineapples, bananas, plantains, Mandarin oranges, limes, papayas. We make juice every day out of fresh fruit. A typical Dominican meal is beet and corn salad, a potato-cheese-and-eggplant dish, guava juice, Coca-Cola, and hot dogs.

A lot of people, even my age, act very young. One friend's name is Muriel. She speaks English but won't speak it to me unless I don't understand something. I like that. Boys are very macho and can be jerks. They are not allowed to ascend the stairs to my sisters' and my bedroom. The girls are overly concerned with clothes, makeup, diet; going to the salon all the time.

Two weekends ago I went to La Romana, a town a couple of hours from Santo Domingo, to the east. It is fairly large for this country, but not a city. Outside of the town is Casa de Campo, the most wealthy, most famous resort in the country. There are tons of villas, large houses with pools, Jacuzzis, terraces, servants. All very Spanish-style. People own them and some are just for renting out. Some of the AFS counselors rented a villa together so they were able to take some of us inside the restricted area to use the pool and Jacuzzis. We spent an evening sitting in the hot tub looking out at the sunset over the Caribbean.

This past weekend I went two nights to big hotels; the first night to the graduation of my sister from modeling school. And the second night to watch a fashion show. I have had quite enough of models and shows for one weekend, hopefully for the year.

Another weekend the fifty foreign students in the country on AFS were here in Santo Domingo. I had the best time! We went all around the old part of the city by foot. This city is the oldest one on the American continent (the New World).

We went up into the tower of the fort, into the home of Diego Cotón (the son of Columbus). We saw the tree where Columbus supposedly tied his ship and the first clock (sundial), hospital, and church. We spent the afternoon on a closed-off cobbled street at least a mile long of stores, shops, vendors selling absolutely anything. It is the part of the city where anybody goes. In this street you can bargain, and everything is cheaper. Almost everything here is actually made or produced in the Dominican Republic.

There is a branch off the street that is the Haitians'. Everywhere we went there were paintings by Haitians, who seem to really like to paint. I don't know why. They are colorful and beautiful. My family and most Dominicans I have met automatically hate anything that is Haitian.

On the subject of Haiti, two guys with AFS who are in school with me went to the Haitian border and actually around into Haiti for a little while. They say that on the border there is a no-man's-land and then in Haiti it is suddenly different. Even all the trees on the Haitian side are cut down.

In the Dominican Republic you can buy jewelry made of amber with ancient bugs trapped in it. I didn't buy anything, but just looking was worth it. Except anyone who speaks even a word of English follows the blondes around trying to sell stuff for twice the price that a Dominican would pay for it. The day that I was with AFS, we stayed in the Dominican part; almost fifty blondes!

My mother, sisters and I got up early and drove in two pick-up trucks and drove out of the city to Constanza with a lot of aunts, uncles and cousins to "La Finca" translated "The Farm." The roads got bad and we drove through sugar cane fields and pastures of cows and horses. I felt like I was in a completely different climate when I saw again the different vegetation and the different shapes of the mountains, also. There were places where you could see for miles across pastures that had palm trees growing right out of the middle of them. And then right there at the end of the pasture there would suddenly be a mountain—no foothills or anything, just a steep mountain out by itself.

In this climate not too much more than a roof is really necessary. We stayed in two little cabins whose walls had spaces between each board to let in light. It was completely without doors and windows, just openings and dirt floors.

The farm is big. There were orchards of orange trees, pastures for the cows and a river. We all hiked for an hour to get to a cave, but we couldn't get there without wading through several muddy streams, so that after awhile nobody cared if they got wet and just sat down in the water. The cave had an opening just big enough to walk through and then we came into large cavern after cavern. There are some ancient drawings on the walls in there but it was too dark to see them.

We had a whole pig roasted right over the fire, and brought back two huge sacks of oranges, tons of oranges, to make juice and eat. Basically we just hung out there the rest of the day.

— Sthea Mason

MAGGIE LEONARD

MONTEREY · BUILT 1989

TREE WARDEN'S REPORT

The tornado consumed most of my time as your Tree Warden this year. It uprooted and damaged trees on eleven town roads, which cost over $200,000 just to clean up. We lost many hundred-year-old trees in these damaged areas as well as many younger trees growing to take their place. In the fall of 1995, many townspeople used funds they raised over the summer and got together to plant seventy-five trees and shrubs along Routes 23 and 57 on the west end of town. We will continue to replan as the town raises or appropriates money to do so. The Monterey Fire Company is handling and managing the tree fund. Donations will be gladly accepted.

— Roger Tryon, Tree Warden

UPON MY WORD!

You may think that jar of mayonnaise is loaded with fat, but it's even more loaded with history. It owes its name to one Marie Edme Patrice Maurice de MacMahon, Duke of Magenta. His family was of Irish descent, and fled into exile with James II. Our MacMahon was born in France, graduated from the military school of St. Cyr, and rose to become a marshal. The story goes that when Napoleon was on his way to Egypt, he stopped at an island in the Mediterranean to lunch with MacMahon, then an officer in the French army. MacMahon in great excitement sent word to the kitchen to serve up something special for the occasion. The chef obliged by whipping up a sauce of eggs, lemon juice, and olive oil. Napoleon was enchanted, and insisted the sauce should be christened Mahonnaise in honor of his host. Since the Irish name did not come naturally to French pronunciation, it soon became mayonnaise.

Something to ponder as you savor your next ham and cheese sandwich.

— Alice O. Howell

CRONE CRAFTS

ASTROLOGY · TAROT · FLOWER ESSENCES

INDIVIDUALS · COUPLES · CLASSES

MARYKATE JORDAN

413 / 528-5557

P. O. BOX 191 MONTEREY, MA 01245

TROMPE L'OEIL ARTISTS

ANDY MATLOW
LAUREL TEWES

MURALS
FAUX FINISHES
PAINTED FURNITURE

STAR ROUTE
MONTEREY, MA 01245
(413) 269-6030

Walsh's Auto Repair

Foreign & domestic cars

Some work done overnight

Custom pipe bending & welding

Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5, Sat 9-5

413-528-4257

Main Road, Monterey, MA 01245

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF HANNAH CLIMENA PIXLEY CONTINUED

Hannah Pixley followed up the grisly epsiode we presented last month with tales of child-enterprise, romance, and a poem, then a scene bearing on the mystery of her birth, and after that another episode with her childhood companions. Her hopscotch storytelling alternates with shadow and light, never leaning so far either way as to lose balance.

Life Goes On

Soon as Mother got over being insane we came back to grandfather's old farm house to live. Then Mother took up weaving to support herself, Grandmother, brother, and me. When brother was three years old she married again, an old mountaineer. Then she had one more to support, so as soon as I could pick berries and young winter greens to sell I had to help. There was an old man who drove the stage. It had a long mail box in front and many a time the old stage would be so full of people he would sit out on the mail box, put my berries on top of the stage, take me on his knee and drive to town. He sold the berries for me, then at stage time he would bring me home. The young wintergreens I tied in little bunches. Then I took [them] to a saloon that Mr. Wright kept. I would hold my basket, knock on the door, and he would come out, take my basket, go in among the men inside while I waited outside and bring me the pay for them at ten cents a bunch. They would be all sold then I would take all the money home to Mother.

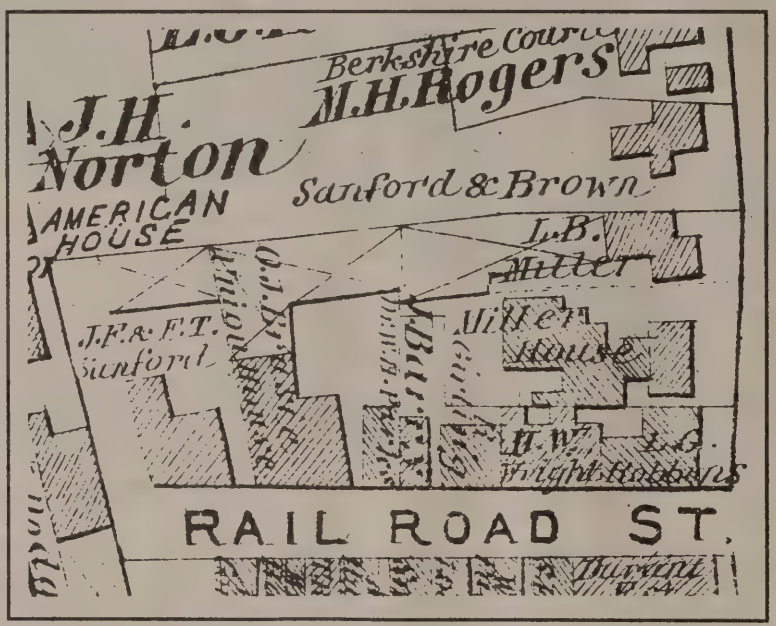
One time the old man that drove the stage give me an orange and I kept it in my hand and he asked me why I did not eat it. I told him I was taking it home to give my little brother half of it. After that he always give me two so we had one for each of us.

When I got through selling that summer I said to him, "Now Mr. Joyner, I have rode with you all summer, how much is my bill?"

The old man laughed, slapped his knee and said, "Little Kate," he always called me, "that you will make a good financier yet now. If you want to pay me, just pick me two quarts of them late double raspberries that grow near the house, for I have told about them where I board and they won't believe me that they grow double."

So I took a two-quart pail. I shall never forget picking them berries and placing them in layers in that pail until I got it full for him, and oh, how pleased he was. So my first bill was all paid. I was nine years old then.

The next summer I wanted a flower bed but my step-dad number two told me if I wanted any such foolishness as that all I could have to plant on was a great flat rock out in the lot. Oh, he was some boss after Mother took him home. But never the less my little brother and I went to work with his little cart and got dirt thick enough on that rock to plant in. I remember we planted sunflowers for one thing on that rock and they grew fine. When they go in blossom that year they were all the rage. The ladies wore the small ones and the men bought the larger ones to put in the whip sockets to their buggies. Well, we sold three dollars of sunflowers off our rock, so that helped a little. Then the next summer I picked blueberries.



This detail from a map of Great Barrington shows a place belonging to H. W. Wright on Railroad Street (above the "D" in "Railroad"), likely the bar where Newton Joyner sold bunches of winter greens for the young Hannah Pixley. The map is in the County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, *surveyed by and under F. W. Beers, and published by R. T. White and Company, New York, 1876.*

Then I met a little boy and he lived six miles from our place but he used to walk six miles to come and play with me. In the summertime we would build houses in the sand. Well, that went on until I was a little over twelve years old. I was outside hanging up a little washing I had done when a woman came along all dressed up in silk and stopped to see Mother and told Mother she would pay her two dollars a week for me to go and live with her. So Mother thought if I could get two dollars a week all the while it would be a fine thing, so this woman was coming after me in a few days. Then that little boy found out that Mother was going to let me go to live with that woman. I never shall forget his walking all the way from his home to see Mother about it. He stepped up to her loom where she was weaving, his eyes blazed, and asked her if she was going to let me go and live with that woman.

Mother told him, "Yes, the work is light—just to get the mail from the office and run on errands."

Well said he, "That is not it at all, she wants her just because she is pretty, for that woman is a bad woman and keeps a bad house."

Mother said, "How do you know anything about her?"

"Well I do know about her, she is my

Two children were at play one day
Building houses in the sand
When the little boy then took
His little playmate by the hand
Saying, "I shall marry you someday
When I grow to be a man."

Then I shook my golden curls
And laughed in childish glee
As to that little boy I said
"Oh, you will never marry me."
"What makes you say so, do you not love me now?"
As a shade of sadness passed o'er his childish brow.
"For I shall build for us a house when I am a man
And I shall build it right down by the salt-sea sand."

Then his parents moved so far away
That little boy I never see for many and many a day.
Then I oft times wondered if he had build that cottage by the sea
And I also wondered where that little boy could be
When one summer night, it was in a crowded hall,
I had just been voted the fairest of them all
When a tall young stranger came walking through the hall.

He stepped up to my side and took me by the hand
Saying, "Here at last I have found you, my child-
Sweetheart, my playmate of the sand.
I loved you as a child, now I love you as a man.
Now I have a cottage down by the salt-sea sand
And it will be my greatest pleasure
If you will accept my heart and hand
And dwell with me forever down by the salt-sea sand."

Then we danced the hours away
Merrily the band did play
While we set one year ahead to be our wedding day.
Then he went home to his cottage
His cottage by the salt-sea sand
For I had given him the promise of my hand.

Then, alas, he heard a cry for help
Far out upon the waves.
He sprung into the ocean another life to save.
The waves rolled o'er him, he sunk
Beneath the waves. I never see him more
For his body there lies buried
Down by the salt-sea shore.

aunt, and she is a bad woman just the **same** and I don't want your little girl to **go there** for some **day I am going** to marry **her when** I get to **be a man."**

"Well then," said Mother, "I will tell the woman that I can't spare her now." So I did not go and Mother thanked him for coming and telling her and that was the last time I ever see that boy until I was 'most seventeen for his folks moved away at that time. This is not a story of romance, so I will tell the rest about me and my little boy playmate in the following poem, just as I composed it. [Above.]

Now I will go back to when I was twelve years old and tell of another little boy I knew and my first proposal of marriage. But first I must tell about that little boy. It was an Irish boy by the name of John. His parents came to this country when he was six years old. Then his parents both died a couple of years later leaving him all alone with no relatives in this country. He had to shift for himself. No one looked after poor children then as they do now so John lived the best way he could, sometimes on what people threw away. In the summer he often slept out of doors, and when it got colder in livery stables where they kept horses. And he wore anything that was given him. Then he would run errands and do anything he could to earn an honest penny.

He learned to count his money and save it until at about fifteen years of age he got a horse and wagon and started peddling small things. One day he came to our house. I stood up on a box washing as I done all the washing at that time but was so small I had to stand on a box to rub the clothes. He told me he had come to ask me to marry him. I stopped work and looked at him and told him I was too young to marry and he was too.

Then he said, "I want a home. I can hire one room and get enough for you and me and I know you cook and wash and I know I could make a home for us."

But I told him, "No, that we were nothing but children and getting married was for old people not children like us." That was the last time I see him. I heard after that he went to New York and got in a store as an errand boy and was so honest and faithful that the owner of the store had him educated for his bookkeeper and he finally married the owner of the store's only daughter. And he was just a poor but honest Irish boy left all alone in the world without father or mother. Well, I think that he done far better than he would if I had accepted his proposal of marriage, don't you dear reader think so, too?

When I was fourteen, Grandmother died. Mother went insane so her sister took her and her boy home with her and I was left to keep house for Ross, Mother's third husband. Old Newton Joyner drove a passenger wagon at that time. One night when he came from town, he brought in a stranger, drove past the house aways, then stopped. A man got out and came to the house Mother's brother lived in across the road from us.

This was Hannah Climena's neighborhood during the period she writes about in this month's installment. The map here was pieced together from separate Beers maps of Great Barrington and Monterey, 1876. The dot-and-dash vertical line is the town boundary near where the Appalachian Trail now crosses Route 23. Hannah lived with Mary Jane Pixley and her half-brother Arthur Gleason in the house labeled "Mrs. Ross." In the house designated "J. B. Pixley" was Mary Jane's brother John. By the date of this map he would have served his three-year sentence for manslaughter in the death of Orlin Gleason.

On a canvas map of Berkshire County dated 1856, and belonging to June Tryon, owner of the later "Mrs. Ross" house is "E. Pixley," and the later "J. B. Pixley" house is labeled simply "Pixley." In addition, the earlier map shows a house belonging to "J. Pixley" on present-day Route 57 (now also called Pixley Road) down near Lake Buel.

Note also the number of Pixleys living on the road into Great Barrington. The brick building on the southeast corner at the intersection of present-day Route 23 and Monument Valley Road (now the Turning Point, a bed and breakfast owned by Irving Yost), belonging to "E. Couch" on this map, belonged to "E. Pixley" in 1856; on that map the structure was identified as an "Old Brick Tavern." Evidently Hannah passed the farms and homes of many relatives as she rode the stage to town with Newton Joyner.

Note also that the road then did not run so straight as the state road does now. We can still see evidence of this in the arm signed "Old Monterey Road" that swings briefly north of Route 23 just over the town line in Great Barrington, and in the curved cuts on both sides of Route 23 coming down Three-Mile Hill toward Butternut Basin. The zig-zag path of the old road, shown on this map, helped ease the way up and down the hill for the stage and its team of horses.

Thanks to Linda Thorpe and June Tryon for their interest and help in placing this story on the old maps. Thinking back one hundred years and more, we must imagine a radically different landscape of open fields used for crops and pasture, a landscape that changed gently over time. The recent tornado provides a sharp lesson in altered landscape right where much of this story took place. The violent stroke of nature that revealed Lake Buel calm in the distance can help us picture the place Hannah Pixley knew as a child.

He had started to go and feed his pigs, but when he see that man coming to our house, he set down his pails and went to the barn on a run to get out of sight. I see him run and thought it strange as always when he see a stranger he would always greet them with hello. I stood by the window watching. Well, the man came to our house and asked for Elijah Pixley. I told him he had been dead for years. Then he asked for Clymena Pixley, his wife, and I told him she had just died and was buried. Then he asked for Mary Pixley Thompson. I told him she was insane and had been taken away. Then he asked for her daughter, Emma Thompson. I told him she had been dead for years. Then he said, "Girl, who are you?" I told him I was Mary Pixley Thompson's daughter. Then he asked how old I was and I told him I was fourteen the twenty-fourth of October [1876]. Then he asked me if none of them ever told me of my parentage. I told him nothing very honorable that I ever heard of. Then Ross got up and told him to leave the house. He told Ross, "I am a gentleman. I will go, but I have come a thousand miles to see this girl. For all the truth they have ever told her is her right age. That is correct now girl. Please step outside, I want to talk with you."

Then he said, "They have lied to you for you came of very honorable parents. You was not her child," for said he, "I could tell you all about your parents for I knew them well." That made me mad. I told him if he had known the secret of my birth all these years and I left in poverty, abuse, disgrace and hardship for fourteen years, he could still keep the secret. He looked me straight in the eyes and said, "You are just like your proud mother was, and you look like her too, with your great big flashing eyes." But said he, "I

will do as you say, keep the secret, but I will tell you that you was put here when you was a little babe three weeks old."

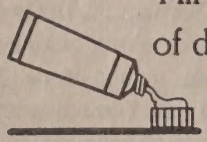
Then he went and got in the wagon to go up to the hotel where Mr. Joyner put up. I think he must of told Mr. Joyner about me for his son, H. C. Joyner, told me once that he thought the time would come when it would be proved that I was not Mary Pixley's child, for said he, "I do not think you are well." I never was like any of that family in looks or ways; none of them wanted me. I was just an odd sheep in the flock and I never liked their ways either. Somehow, I never seemed to fit in.

I remember one day I found in a bureau drawer a little package and I undone it. In it was some very fine baby clothes of very fine cloth and made beautiful. I took them to Mother, as I always call her, and asked her what they was? She told me them was my clothes. I asked her why her boy did not wear them when he was a baby? She said she never put them on him and I did know his baby dresses was made of print calico and all his baby clothes was cheap goods and nothing like the fine clothes I found in the drawer that she told me was mine. Well, I grew up with them, but they never cared for me. I was just one too many. As near as I could ever learn, I came about the time the old well was stoned up. I asked Mother in her last days if some one did not lay in the bottom of that well and she told me it was nothing she ever done. I told her I did not think it was, yet as I grow older, I oft times wonder if there is where my true parents are. I know not, so I will go on with my story.

In the place where we lived on the old farm in that neighborhood, there was one boy and three of us girls. Well, I remember when he got his first store pants. He came up big as life all dressed up with his new pants on and asked another girl and me to go to the ice glen with him. Well, we went got some ice; it was in the early Fall and when we was coming home through a nut grove, he see a big woodchuck, so he went after the woodchuck and told us girls to wait in the nut grove for him. Well, we waited and waited thinking he had got lost. Well, what had happened was this: In them days, the first clothes that was made was sewed with a chain stitch that had only one thread and that chuck had got that thread in his teeth and ripped up one pants leg and down the other and he hadto go until he found a thorn tree to get the thorn pins to pin up his pants. Well he got the woodchuck; however, and came home just as proud as he went with his new store pants on.

Then he wanted us three girls to go out in a boat one day, so we all four went. The lilies were beautiful. I was standing up on the end seat of the boat reaching for a lily when his back was towards me. Just then, he said, "O Nettie, there is a fine one." The girls were in the other end of the boat. As he turned the boat, quick for her to get the flower, it throwed me in to the pond. I went to the bottom. None of us girls could swim. How the girls did holler. He told them to keep still and both sit on the other side of the boat while he laid across it and watched for me to come up. The first time, he could not reach me, so I held my breath all I could under water and went down once more. When I got to the bottom once more, I grabbed a bunch of green weeds that grew on the bottom of the pond, kept them in my hand and held them tight. When I came up the next time, I just raised my arms high above my head, so Clarence Johnson caught hold of my wrists and pulled me back in to the boat. Then he asked me what I had in my hand. I told him that was some pretty green that grew on the bottom of the pond and I wanted to show them what was down there where I had been. "Yes," he says, "Here are you cool as a cucumber and we scarred most to death." I told him that there was no cause for fear for I had made up my mind I should not grab the side of the boat or them or I could drown them. Just because I was in the pond, my life when young was not very pleasant most of the time, so I did not value it very high. Well, anyhow, the sun soon dried me off and I was just as good as ever and ready to see what would happen next. We had a good time that day and we got lots of flowers.

DR. JERROLD RAAB
Dentist



All phases of dentistry

528 - 6520

Route 23 Monterey

Peter S. Vallianos
Attorney at Law
528-0055

General practice includes real estate purchases, sales, family transfers, and transfers in trust, zoning, land use matters, conservation restrictions landlord-tenant; wills, probate; commercial law.

***

I will meet with you at your home in Monterey.

MERRIMAC SMOKED FISH Inc

We make some of the finest smoked seafoods in the world right here in the Berkshires!

Stop by for a tast-

- HA
- makings

now available at THE GENERAL STORE!

esh fish market

(413) 528-2004

955 South Main Street Great Barrington, MA

(2 miles south of downtown Great Barrington on Route 7, across from Seward's Tires)

PERSONAL NOTES

Double congratulations to **Jon** and **Heather Andrus** whose twin daughters, **Ashley Patricia** and **Alison Michaela** were born February 17 at Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington. The twins join their excited and helpful older sisters at home, **Morgan**, 5, and **Rene**, 3. Best wishes also to proud grandparents **Tom** and **Pat Andrus** of Main Road.

And, our congratulations to **Fred** and **Lucie Lancome** of Main Road, who are ecstatic over the arrival of their second great-granddaughter. **Raven** was born on March 1 to proud parents **Marie Rose**, their granddaughter, and her husband **Lenny Rose** who, of note, is the grandson of an Indian chief in the Narraganset tribe. Raven joins her five-year-old big sister, **Alexandria**, at home in Wilmington, Massachusetts.

Welcome back to **Sandy Banks** and **Lindsay Pontius** of the Bigger Light Theater Company, Art School Road, who spent the month of January traveling and performing in Germany. They report it was exciting and rewarding to perform in old castles and other fairy-tale-like settings, and to meet with incredibly receptive audiences throughout their tour. They are only sorry they missed "the big storm." Does everyone believe that?

Hats off to **Marta Makuc**, named to the Dean's List at Providence College in Rhode Island for the fall semester.

Very happy birthday wishes this month to **Maynard Forbes** and **Wendy Tryon** on April 2, to **Eric Pedersen** and **Karl Quisenberry** on April 4, to **Siobhanne Pope** on April 5, to **Bonnie Cox** on April 8, to **Andrew Doherty** on April 16, to **Don Coburn** on April 19, to **Cody Funk** on April 24, to **Richard Westenberg** on April 26, and to **Grace Burke** on April 29.

And very happy anniversary wishes to **Maynard** and **Gale Forbes** April 5.

Please submit any news items, birthday wishes, etc. you would like to share simply by giving me a call at 528-4519, or by jotting items down and dropping them in the mail to me, just Route 23. Your news contributions are appreciated. Thanks in advance!

— Stephanie Grotz

HAPPY (ASTROLOGICAL) NEW YEAR!

By the time you read this, the sun will have moved into the sign of Aries, an event we celebrate annually as the first day of spring. This also marks the beginning of the new astrological year, since Aries is considered the first of the signs of the zodiac.

Aries and the other eleven signs have a lot to teach. Their lessons show up in two ways: the signs teach by wakening us to their strengths, and by making us aware of the virtues each sign still has to learn. The strengths of each sign grow out of the blind spots of the sign before it.

Look for the name of your sun sign on the following list. (Your sun sign is the sign you refer to when you say, "I'm an Aries," or "I'm a Virgo.") See if you're taking the best advantage of what your sun sign has to teach. If you know them, check for the lessons your moon sign and rising sign have to offer, too.

Aries: enthusiasm/endurance.
Taurus: patience/flexibility.
Gemini: variety/focus.
Cancer: nurturing/backbone.
Leo: courage/subtlety.
Virgo: detail awareness/tolerance.
Libra: forbearance/self-trust.
Scorpio: intensity/breadth of vision.
Sagittarius: abundance/discipline.
Capricorn: mental control/comfort with serendipity.
Aquarius: capacity for surprise/compassion.
Pisces: empathy/boundaries.

— MaryKate Jordan

Always Call Benchmark

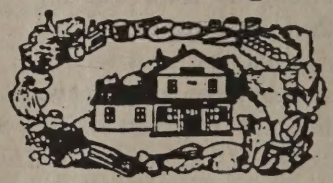
For personal, professional real estate services.

BENCHMARK REAL ESTATE

Monterey Office 528-9595
Otis Office 269-4089

MLS. Nancy Kalodner, GRI Broker

MONTERREY



GENERAL STORE

Serving Monterey for over 200 years

Route 23, Monterey
528-4437
Open 7 days a week

Curtin Roofing
62 Main Street
Tyringham, MA 01264
413-243-4577

Matthew Curtin

Bird Incorporated ROOFING PROFESSIONAL

CALENDAR

Wednesdays, April 3 and 17 Meeting of the Monterey Grange No. 291, 8 p.m. at the Grange Hall.

Sundays, April 7, 14, 21, 28 AA meetings, 9 a.m. in the Monterey Firehouse, Main Road.

Monday, April 8 State Sen. Jane Swift to meet voters, 5–7 p.m. in social room, Monterey United Church of Christ.

Tuesday, April 9 Open house at Mt. Everett High School, 6–8:30 p.m.

Friday, April 12 Democratic Town Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. at firehouse, followed by general membership meeting.

Sunday, April 14 Open House for new Engine 1, 1-4 p.m. at the Monterey firehouse. Refreshments.

Monday, April 15 "On Finding the Sacred in the Commonplace—An Introduction," a talk by Alice O. Howell, 7 p.m. in the Social Room of Monterey United Church of Christ.

Tuesday, April 16 Free blood pressure clinic, 9–10:30 a.m. in the basement room of the Monterey Grange (town offices), Main Road.

Wednesday, April 17 Meeting of the Southern Berkshire Solid Waste District, 7 p.m. in the church basement.

Friday, April 26

Free luncheon sponsored by Council on Aging, guest speaker Hospice Administrator MaryKate Jordan, basement room at Town Hall, 12 noon. All welcome.

Baby Town Meeting, Monterey firehouse, 7 p.m. Informational review for Annual Town Meeting.

Saturday, April 27 Square and contradance at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, 8:30–11:30 p.m. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Joe Baker. All dances taught, beginners and children welcome. Refreshments. Adults $5, children $2. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

RICHARD SHERIDAN

Seasonal Caretaking
Landscaping

CLEARING ROADS & BUILDING SITES
SNOWPLOWING & SANDING

LAWN MOWING
LAWN CARE
TREE WORK

PO Box 382, Monterey, MA 01245
(413) 528-5559

THE OBSERVER - FEBRUARY

High temp (2/23)	49°
Low temp. (2/6)	-10°
Wind-chilled low temp. (2/13)	-42°
Avg. high temp.	33°
Avg. low temp.	12°
Avg. temp.	23°
Monthly norm. (Pitts.)	22.5°
Precip. occ.	17 days
Rainfall	1.2"
Snowfall	22.5"
Total precip.	2.4"
Monthly norm. (Pitts.)	2.78"
High bar. press. (2/6)	30.35"
Low bar. press. (2/11)	29.21"
High humidity (2/3)	948%
Low humidity (2/27)	58%
Avg. wind speed	4.5 mph
High wind gust (2/25)	53 mph

Mad Scot
Small Engine Repair

Lawn Mowers
Tractors
Tillers
Chain Saws
Snowblowers

Many years' experience on all types of small engines.

Chains and blades sharpened.

Don Clawson
Box.26
Monterey 01245

Pickup and delivery.
Local service.
Reasonable rates.

(413) 528-3257

Monterey United Church of Christ

Sunday Services · 10 a.m.
(Child care available)

Maundy Thursday, April 4, at 6:30 p.m., potluck meal and communion in the Social Room.

Easter Sunrise Service at Gould Farm, ca. 6:30

For assistance & information:

Keith Snow (Pastor)	528-5850
Bob Emmel (Clerk, Trustee)	528-1321
Tom O'Brien (Trustee)	269-7471
Judy Hayes (Worship)	528-1874

With a prayer request or to join the Prayer Chain:

MaryKate Jordan	528-5557
Mary or Ray Ward	528-9243
Judy Hayes	528-1874

CHICKADEE
Hair Design

specializing in
precision cuts for
men • women • children
also
CUSTOM PERMS • COLOR
for appointment call
229-3636
Prop. Bonnie Walsh Compeglio
CORNER RTE 7 & MAPLE AVE
SHEFFIELD

CORASHIRE
REALTY

Nancy Dinan
Broker
413-528-0014

Deborah D. Mielke
Broker
413-528-1871

Our 28th year

Fax 413-528-4809

Roger Tryon
Landscape Services

Winter is a good time to discuss and plan your landscape projects for the spring.

WINTER SERVICES
Tree Care · Land Clearing · Burning · Snow Removal

413·528-4091

Editor ..... Peter Murkett
Reporters ..... Jane Black
..... David P. McAllester
Typist ..... Pat Amstead
Personal Notes ..... Stephanie Grotz
Business Manager ..... Barbara Tryon
Treasurer ..... Mari Makuc
Mailing Labels ..... Ian Jenkins

Our editorial address is *Monterey News*, P. O. Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245.

We invite readers to submit letters, news items, opinions, stories, poetry, drawings, and photographs. Please send submissions by the fifteenth of the month before publication, addressed to the attention of the Editor.

Send any change of address, or initial request to receive the *News* by mail to Barbara Tryon, Business Manager.

Address your request for advertising rates and information to the Editor. For further information, telephone the Editor at 413-528-3454 evenings, or 528-9937 days.

No portion of the *Monterey News* may be reproduced without permission.

Contributions from local artists this month: Sudi Baker, pp. 21, 23; Erika Crofut, pp. 6, 15; Brooke Marks (pony ride), p. 12; Bonner McAllester, p. 14; Erin McGinley (pocket lady), p.12; Bowie Strattner (bookmark), p. 13.

• PRINTED ON 40% RECYCLED PAPER •

MONTEREY NEWS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MONTEREY, MA 01245

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Monterey, MA
Permit # 2